

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

FRB-03 OMB-01 L-02 OIC-02 /061 R

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SP

SUBJECT: TEXTILES - BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: A) STATE 67129 B) MADRID 1888 C) SMITH-OLIVER

TELECON MARCH 28

MADRID FOR OLIVER

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

1. PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH GOS AT THIS
TIME IS TO REVIEW AND EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CURRENT BILATERAL
TRADE IN TEXTILES. ONE MAJOR PURPOSE OF SUCH AN EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS WOULD BE TO BRING CURRENT GOS/USG AGREEMENT
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ON TRADE IN COTTON TEXTILES INTO CONFORMITY WITH THE MORE

LIBERAL PROVISIONS OF THE ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES (MFA), (E.G., HIGHER RATE OF ANNUAL GROWTH OF QUOTAS, INCREASED FLEXIBILITY TO SHIFT QUOTAS BETWEEN CATEGORIES, ETC.) UNDER THE TERMS OF THE MFA, THIS MUST BE DONE FOR ALL CURRENT TEXTILE AGREEMENTS.

2. IN ADDITION, THOUGH THEY HAVE BEEN DROPPING IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS DUE TO OVERALL DECLINE IN THE MARKET, SPANISH EXPORTS OF MAN-MADE FIBER AND WOOL TEXTILES TO U.S. ARE NOT INSIGNIFICANT, AND SO USDEL WOULD ALSO WISH TO DISCUSS DESIRABILITY OR APPROPRIATENESS OF AGREEMENT COVERING TRADE IN THOSE TEXTILES. SUCH AN AGREEMENT COULD BE BLENDED WITH UPDATED COTTON AGREEMENT TO FORM NEW AGREEMENT COVERING TRADE IN TEXTILES OF ALL FIBERS. PRIMARY PURPOSE OF CONSULTATIONS, HOWEVER, WOULD BE TO BRING CURRENT COTTON AGREEMENT INTO CONFORMITY WITH MFA.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH GOS ALSO ON ABOVE LINES AND ADVISE SOONEST. PLEASE INFO BOGOTA FOR MICHAEL SMITH, AND GENEVA. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, DATA, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE071875
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WCMIMS:HM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750111-0326
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975032/aaaaabad.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 67129, 75 MADRID 1888, 75 SMITH-OLIVER
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXTILES - BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, SP, US
To: MADRID
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006